REMARKS

The accompanying sequence listing in computer readable format and statement under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.821(e) and (f), along with the following remarks, are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Notice dated April 12, 2004. The application date and number as well as the priority date and number have been added for compliance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to review the attached sequence listing and statement, to proceed with examination of the application on the merits, and to indicate the allowability of the claims.

Substantive consideration of the claims is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the address and phone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher

Registration Number 24,344

Juan Carlos A. Marquez
Registration Number 34,072

REED SMITH LLP 3110 Fairview Park Drive Suite 1400 Falls Church, Virginia 22042 (703) 641-4200

April 27, 2004

SPF/JCM/JT